

Mr. Schnuck's early schooling took place at a one room school house at Highland. He attended Boonville High School, and after graduating in 1928, he went on to the University of Missouri. While at Mizzou, Mr. Schnuck competed on several judging teams. His main interests were grain farming and cattle. In 1952, Mr. Schnuck won a corn growing contest sponsored by a radio station in Kansas City; he won with 152 bushels of corn on a single acre in the senior division.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Arthur H. Schnuck of Cooper County, Missouri. Mr. Schnuck's lifelong dedication to agriculture and his community is remarkable, and his accomplishments are commendable. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress. I offer him my warmest regards on this important milestone, and my best wishes for many more birthdays in the future.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER MEN'S BASEBALL TEAM

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 15, 2005*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater men's baseball team who in a stunning display of athleticism, captured the NCAA Division III national championship. Led by head coach John Vodenlich, the Warhawks capped an extraordinary season by winning their first national championship in school history. UW-Whitewater compiled a 45-7 overall record, the best in school history, and became the first team since 1999 to not lose a single game in the double elimination championship tournament.

UW-Whitewater demonstrated impeccable skill both in the field and at the plate. The pitching duo of Senior Kevin Tomasiewicz and Junior Greg Reinhard led the charge for the Warhawks. Tomasiewicz, who was recently selected by the New York Mets in the 2005 Major League Baseball Draft, garnered MVP honors for the championship series after earning two wins and a save during the Warhawks' four game run. Reinhard, who was also selected in the Draft by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, earned first-term All-American Honors and was named the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and ABCA Division III Pitcher of the Year. At the plate, junior designated hitter Eddie Adamson batted a Ted Williams like .417 and set the single season school records for hits, RBIs, runs scored and doubles. The Warhawks also demonstrated their toughness and determination off the field. Outfielder Eric Baldwin earned the WIAC Max Sparger Scholar Athlete of the Year award in honor of his academic excellence.

Winning the title in Grand Chute, just outside of Appleton, Wisconsin, the Warhawks brought tremendous pride for people from all over the great state of Wisconsin. I would like to sincerely congratulate the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater men's baseball team for their remarkable achievements and wish them the best of luck in their quest to repeat as National Champions.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING DR. BOBBY PATTON

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 15, 2005*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career in the field of education will soon come to an end. Dr. Bobby Patton will be retiring from his position as President of Central Missouri State University on June 30 after six years of service to the University.

Dr. Patton received a BA in Speech, Theatre, and English at Texas Christian University, a Masters in Speech and Drama at the University of Kansas, and a Doctorate in Speech Communication at the University of Kansas.

Dr. Patton has had an exceptional career in education for many years. In 1967, Dr. Patton began his educational career at the University of Kansas as the Associate Chair and Acting Chair of the Department of Speech and Drama. In 1972, Dr. Patton continued his career at the University of Kansas as the Chair of the Department of Speech and Drama. In 1980, Dr. Patton was Chair of the Division of Communication and Theatre at the University of Kansas. After his twenty year career with the University of Kansas, Dr. Patton continued his educational career with California State University as the Dean of the School of Arts and Letters. Following his career at California State University, Dr. Patton served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Communication Studies at Wichita State University. In 1999, Dr. Patton continued his educational career as the 13th president of Central Missouri State University.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Patton has served the field of education for over thirty-eight years. As he prepares for the next stage in his life, I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing him all the best.

RECOGNIZING COMMERCE BANK

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 15, 2005*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Commerce Bank. In a few days, Commerce Bank will receive the Saint Joseph YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Employer of Excellence.

Commerce Bank has worked to make banking an outstanding career choice for women. Since 1986, the business has continually provided opportunities for Saint Joseph women. High achievement is encouraged by Commerce through educational assistance, career training opportunities, and scheduling flexibility. While maintaining their regular work schedules, several female officers and employees have obtained or are currently working toward college degrees. Currently 61 percent of Commerce Bank's employees are women. From Secretary to Senior Vice President, women are entrusted to fill critical positions.

Commerce has also been widely recognized for its commitment to community volunteerism.

In the 10-year history of the Commerce Commendation Award, Commerce Bank of Saint Joseph has won the award nine times; five of those awards have gone to female employees. Commerce's female employees are engaged in a wide range of community activities including the Partners in Education program, tutoring school children, and even taking part in the Red Cross Hurricane Relief effort.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Commerce Bank, an exceptional employer in Missouri's Sixth Congressional District that has made banking an outstanding career choice for women. Commerce Bank's commitment to excellence is inspiring, and I am honored to represent so many of its fine employees and officers in the United States Congress.

INTRODUCING THE GAS PRICE SPIKE RELIEF ACT OF 2005

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 15, 2005*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will help ease the effect on consumers and airline passengers if the price of gas spikes dramatically. This bill reduces or refunds federal tax on gasoline and motor fuel when the price of gas spikes dramatically.

My legislation, the Gas Price Spike Relief Act of 2005, temporarily cuts the federal gas tax for consumers by providing a tax refund to retailers if the price of motor or aviation fuel rises 10 percent during the course of a month. When the price of fuel jumps this drastically, the Gas Price Spike Relief Act will reduce the tax on motor and aviation fuel by 4.3 cents/gallon and allow retailers to apply for a refund of this tax, ensuring that this tax relief will not affect any money designated for the repair of highways and roads through the Highway Trust Fund. Providing this relief will spur the reduction of gasoline prices at the pump as well as the price of airline tickets.

This legislation address a growing need to provide relief to average Americans from wildly fluctuating gas prices. For example, from March to April of 2005, the cost to fill up a tank of gas rose by more than 10 percent. That's more than twice the increase for the same period last year! We need to be helping working families out—not abandoning them like Republicans have—when no logical explanation exists for ridiculous gas price spikes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Gas prices have gotten out of control. This legislation will provide some needed relief while maintaining the gas price stability our Nation needs. I look forward to working with my colleagues and moving this legislation forward.

HONORING OSCAR BROWN, JR.

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 15, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the artistic and political icons of our